The Daily Courant.

N° 5251.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1732-3.

To the Author of the DAILY COURANT.

SIR,

ONE of the greateſt Inſtances of *Freedom* that can be found among any People pretending to *Liberty*, is that of examining the State of *Publick Affairs*: And this, I think, was never more freely permitted in any *Country* than our own; and in no Age practiſed with greater Licence than at preſent. We meet every day with Papers which handle the moſt important Points in a manner directly oppoſite to the Senſe of the *Adminiſtration*; and yet the very Men who write them grow warm at the firſt Contradiction, and ſeem, with all their Fondneſs for *Liberty*, to be out of Humour that the Preſs ſhould be open to any but themſelves.

Of all the *Topicks* theſe Gentlemen have choſen to diſplay their *political Capacities*, none have been inſiſted on more ſtrenuouſly, or with greater Air of *Triumph*, than that of a *Standing Army*; under the Notion of which they conſtantly repreſent that *Body* of *Men* which is ſupported by *Parliamentary* Authority for the *Defence* of theſe *Kingdoms*. In a former Paper I have taken upon me to refute what is advanced in the *Craftſman* as to the *Danger* which might be incurred by ſuch a *Force* to the *Liberties* of a *Free People*. In this I ſhall endeavour to ſhew the Expediency of keeping up ſuch a *Land-Force* as is on foot at preſent, at leaſt for another Year. And in doing this, I preſume, I take no greater *Liberty* than has been already taken on the other Side of the Queſtion by the ſage Mr. *Caleb D'Anvers*.

The ſtrongeſt Objection urged by thoſe who are againſt keeping up as many *Troops* as are now ſubſiſting, is drawn from the Nobility of the Thing, and its Diſagreement, as they apprehend, with the Frame of our *Conſtitution*: In Support of which they obſerve, that *Standing Forces* were never heard of under the legal Government till the Days of King *Charles* II. that ſince the *Revolution* they have been a continual *Burthen* on the *People*; and therefore now, to bring Things back to our old *Conſtitution* as near as may be, they are either for totally *diſbanding* them, or at leaſt for making a very great *Reduction*.

In Anſwer to this it has been ſaid, that the *State of Affairs* throughout *Europe* has been ſuch changed ſince the Reſtoration; and that from the Time of the *Revolution* they have continued in a Poſture which has rendered it unſafe for many of its Powers to *diſband* their *Forces*; and that, among the reſt, ourſelves have been under a Neceſſity of keeping up the Regular Troops for our *Security*; and as yet have had no Opportunity of freeing the *Nation* (without *Danger*) from that *Expence*.

The great *Points* in *Queſtion* then are, whether this *Aſſertion* be true, or not; and whether, if it be true, the *Number* of *Men* at preſent paid and ſupported by *Parliament* be as ſmall a *Number* as the Situation of Things will permit: For if theſe two Points can once be made clear, it will follow, that to *reduce* the *Army* would be to *detriment* the *Publick*. I ſhall proceed therefore to explain theſe Heads as conciſely as I can; tho' at the Hazard of being again *rebuked* by the *Craftſman*, and *traduced* by his *Correſpondent*.

Without running up our Reſearches to too great a Height, we ſhall obſerve, that the *Schemes* formed by Cardinal *Richlieu* and his Succeſſor *Mazarine*, for aggrandizing the *French Monarchy*, gave the great Turn to the Politicks of all *Europe*; and have made *Standing Armies*, or rather *Regular Forces*, [illegible] Security of their *Dominions*, and for preſerving *Peace*. Few who pretend to any Acquaintance with Modern Hiſtory can be ignorant of the prodigious Advantages thoſe *Miniſters* procured to that *Crown* by having a *Military Power* always at hand, ſuperior to the *Force* at that time kept on foot by any of their Neighbours; what *Broils*, what *Confuſion* was by this Means introduced, till other *Powers* made uſe of this *Inſtrument* of *Ambition* for their own *Defence*; and were conſtrained to *arm*, that they might not be continually in Danger of ſuffering from *Surprize*.

The States of *Holland* were but lately acknowled by the *Crown* of *Spain*, and put out of Fear from that Side; whereby they might have had an Opportunity of *diſbanding*, in great Meaſure, thoſe *Forces* which they had maintained thro' the Courſe of ſo *long a War*. But the Growth of the *French Power*, and the Poſture of Affairs in that *Kingdom*, gave them no long Reſpite; they were obliged to provide as carefully for their Security on that Side, as they had done on the other: Nay, ſuch a Mutation happened in their *Intereſts*, as engaged them to do almoſt as much for the *Spaniards*, as if they had ſtill continued their Subjects.

No body has, I think, ever queſtioned either the *Dutch* Frugality or their Affection for Liberty; and yet we ſee they have never omitted the neceſſary Expence of keeping up a *Land Force*, except during the Miniſtry of the *De Witts*, when the prevailing Spirit of falſe *Patriotiſm* brought Things into ſuch a Condition, as had well nigh ruined the *Common-Wealth*; warned by this Example, they have never ſince fallen into a like Error; but by a proper Obſervation of *Political Events*, have continually ſupported both the *Dignity* and *Freedom* of their *Republick*.

The Affairs of King *Charles* the *Second* conſtrained him, more than once, to raiſe Forces; but the *Parliament*, from a laudable Zeal for the *Publick Service*, would not ſuffer him to keep them up; they knew the Diſpoſition of that *Prince*, and the Intrigues of his *Miniſtry*; they had a juſt Regard for the *Liberty* of the *People*, and therefore they oppoſed what at that time muſt have been fatal. The *Duke* of *Monmouth*'s Expedition in the next Reign, afforded King *James* an Opportunity both for raiſing and keeping an Army on Foot in the Neighbourhood of this City, *Officered*, *Diſciplined*, and *Regulated*, in every Degree, as his *Majeſty* thought fit. This was indeed a Body of *Regular Troops*, which might juſtly ſtrike a Dread into the Minds of *Britains*, when they conſidered the Religion of the *Monarch* on the *Throne*, and the Deſigns he was carrying on againſt their *Civil Liberties*. Yet here we have an indelible Inſtance of the Honour of *Britiſh Officers* and of *Britiſh Soldiers*; they were ſo far from obeying *Orders*, even when given by their *Sovereign*, to the Prejudice of their *Fellow-Subjects*, that they quitted his *Service* on the firſt Opportunity, and went over to the Cauſe of *Liberty*, as ſoon as they had it in their *Power* to declare themſelves with a reaſonable Proſpect of *Safety*.

The *Revolution* made a great Alteration in the *Affairs* of *Europe*; it engaged us in a *War Abroad*, in Support of what we had done at *Home*; it obliged us to do all in our Power to prevent the Return of a *Prince*, whoſe *Government* we had experienced to be *inſupportable*; it raiſed however the *Britiſh Reputation* to its ancient *Height*, reſtored us to a Degree of *Conſideration* we had long loſt among *Foreign Princes*; and, in the End, ſettled us in the full Poſſeſſion of our *Liberties* and *Properties*, and left us in as *good*, if not a *better*, Condition, than any other *Nation* in *Europe*. The Death of the King of *Spain*, the Projects of *Lewis* the XIVth, and the Attempts made for impoſing on us the *Pretender*, drove us into a ſecond War, which, after being carried on with the greateſt *Glory*, was concluded by a ſhameful and ill-concerted *Peace*, from the Effects of which we have lived in a State of *Uncertainty* and *Confuſion* for many Years; during which the Wiſdom of *Parliament* hath thought fit to keep up a reaſonable *Land Force*, and the Queſtion now is, Whether immediately after adjuſting our Differences with *Spain*, and compoſing the Troubles of *Europe*, which endangered our Trade, we are now to part with thoſe *Forces* we have hitherto found ſo neceſſary, and from whom we never experienced any Inconvenience; whether we ſhall only leſſen them by a large *Reduction*, or be content to keep them up another *Year* as they are?

In order to have a juſt Comprehenſion of this Matter, we ought to conſider what *Number* of *Men* the preſent *Forces* conſiſt of; and how and where they are diſpoſed. As to their Number, they are *Seventeen Thouſand*, of theſe *Three Thouſand* are quartered in *Scotland*, where it is known the *Pretender* to his *Majeſty's Crown* has many *Adherents*, and where the *Troops* have been rendered highly uſeful to the *Publick* of late Years. *Two Thouſand* more are decayed *Veterans*, diſpoſed of in the *Garriſons* of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, *Scilly*, &c. *Four Thouſand* are employed in the *Weſt-Indies* and in the Garriſons of *Port-Mahon* and *Gibraltar*. *Three Thouſand* compoſe his Majeſty's *Guards*, and are at the ſame time a great and neceſſary Security to this *City*, while the remaining *Five Thouſand* Men are diſperſed over *England*, and are a Body ſurely much too ſmall to raiſe any *Apprehenſions* of our *Liberties* being endangered by keeping them up, if we had not an additional Aſſurance from the known and experienced *Virtues* of his *Majeſty* now on the *Throne*, that no ſuch Thing will ever be *thought of*.

If we look round on all our *Neighbours* we ſhall diſcover none ſo eaſy in this *Point* as we are even at preſent. We ſhall find that they do not as yet think every Thing ſo *firmly eſtabliſhed* as to diminiſh their *Forces*. And we may perhaps obſerve ſome other Reaſons which may induce us to keep our own unreduced, till Time has a little better cemented the *Tranquility* of *Europe*; tho' the Jealouſies, Diſcontents and Murmurings of a ſeditious *Faction* gave us no Diſturbance at *Home*. There is no doubt, but that all theſe Things will be thoroughly conſidered by the *Legiſlature*; and I give the Publick my Sentiments on this Head, only as a *Friend* to my *Country* and the *State*.

I am ſorry that in the Concluſion of this Paper I ſhould be conſtrained to trouble the World with any thing that relates to *myſelf*: However, to make ſome Amends, what I ſay ſhall be compriſed in few Words. The *Craftſman* of laſt *Saturday* has loaded me with a heavy *Charge*; *viz.* of being a *Lyar*, and a *Man* who is aſhamed of *his Country*: This is followed by an *Accuſation* at once ſo *ſcurrilous* and ſo *confuſed*, that I know not what to make of it; only I have ſo good an *Opinion* of Mr. *D'Anvers*, notwithſtanding the Uſage I have met with, that I do not think he would have publiſhed it, if he had not conceived it would have been of ſome Uſe to the *Publick*; for whoſe Sake I intreat him to explain it next *Saturday*, if he is able.

As to my own *Character*, I dare, I [illegible] the *Author* of the *Letter* to the *Craftſman* to [illegible] all he knows; and I promiſe *him* and the *Publick*, that if he can but make out one *Sixth* in his *Epiſtle* to be *true*, I will rid the World for the future of my *Lucubrations*; which, without the Aſſiſtance of any, I have carried on how near a *Twelvemonth*, [illegible] other Motive than ſerving [illegible] my *Country*.

I am your's, &c.

CARUS.

Yesterday arrived the Mail due from France.

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THE Queen goes on well with her Great Belly. Her Majesty was to have come to Versailles one day last Week, to see the Duke of Anjou; but his Royal Highness being somewhat better, her Majesty staid at Marly. Nevertheless, that young Prince has a little Fever every day.

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Whereupon the first Thirty were declared duly elected.

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Those marked [*] were in the late Direction.

Those marked [‖] were at first in both Lists; but having joined in Interest with the *House List*, were left out of the List agreed on at the Swan Tavern. And,

Those marked [*a*] were added in their room.

Yesterday Morning the Corpse of the late Lord Foley was carried out of Town from his House in Hanover-Square, in order to be interred at Whitley in Worcestershire, in a Vault belonging to that Noble Family.

Private Letters from Smyrna, dated Nov. 21, mention, that the Bosphorus, Capt. Richards, was arrived safe at Smyrna on the 18th of that Month; and also that the Thames Fregate, Capt. Lisle, in the Service of the Hon. Turky Company, was daily expected from Constantinople to that Port, in order to load for England.

Yesterday Morning Capt. Williamson, Commander of the Decker, and Capt. Grantham, Commander of the Britannia, having taken Leave of the Court of Directors, set out for Gravesend, to proceed for Bengal.

Letters from Chester by last Post give an Account, that notwithstanding the extraordinary Proceedings of the Constables, the Poll ended on Wednesday last as follows; *viz.*

Persons polled for Mr. Grosvenor	879
Persons entered on the Poll-Books for Mr. Grosvenor, as Non-Residents —	193
There remain for Mr. Grosvenor, entered on the Poll-Books as Inhabitants, including about 200 Constables, who being Freemen, voted — —	684
Persons who were Inhabitants, paying Scot and Lot, being Freeman, polled for Mr. Manley — — —	518

Among the 684 there are a considerable Number of Paupers; and several entered on the Poll-Books as Inhabitants, who were properly Foreigners, and were polled as such at the Mayor's last Election; besides Miners, and Honorary Freemen: So that 'tis apprehended, upon a Scrutiny, the Number of Freemen-Inhabitants (paying Scot and Lot) for Mr. Manley will be near equal, if not superior, besides the Constables.

The Appointment of these Constables is a Proceeding of a very extraordinary Nature in the Magistrates; who, instead of making an equal Number named by each Candidate, as has been usually practised on the like Occasions, have turned out such of the 36 Standing Constables of the City as were in Mr. Manley's Interest; and not only made others in their room in Mr. Grosvenor's Interest, but appointed an additional Number of 170; which proved an effectual Influence on Mr. Grosvenor's Side, they being paid Half a Crown a Day, under Pretence of acting as Constables; and at the same time effectually discouraged Mr. Manley's Friends, many of them being threatened, obstructed, beaten, and terrified by these Constables, under the Pretence of Authority, from voting for him.

Last Night the Coroner's Inquest sat on the Bodies of Mrs. Duncomb, and the two other Women, who were found murdered in Tanfield-Court in the Temple, as mentioned in our last; and, without going out, brought in their Verdict *Wilful Murder*; and the same day four Laundresses in the Temple were committed to Newgate for the same: One of them confessed the Fact, and impeached the other three. She that confessed was taken up by a Gentleman of the Temple, in whose Chambers she had laid some Plate and bloody Linnen, not expecting he would come to Town so soon as he did by some Days.

Yesterday South Sea Stock was 104 7 8ths to 105. South Sea Ann. 110 to 1 8th South Sea Bonds 2 l. 8. to 9 s. Prem. Bank 151 1 4th to 1 half. Bank Circulation 5 l. 5 s. Million Bank 115. India 160 1 4th. 160 1 half. 160 1 4th. India Bonds 5 l. 7 s. to 8 s. Prem. Royal Assurance 104 3 4ths. London Assurance 13 5 8ths. African 35. Old Buildings no Transfer. Three per Cent. Annuity 100 1 4th. Three and 1 half per Cent. Annuity 4 l. 10 s. Prem. Three per Cent. Bonds 2 l. 18 s. to 3 l.

This is to give Notice,

That *Thomas Ellys*, French Wine Merchant, in Seething Lane, Tower Street, London, has lately imported a Parcel of excellent good old Nantz Brandy, and will sell exactly near as it is landed at the Keys, without any Adulteration (as is practised by many People) at 6 s. 6 d. per Gallon ready Money, for any Parcel not less than five Gallons; and on the Key by Wholesale, he will sell it something cheaper. He has provided a very large Parcel that is coming over, of which he will give Notice in this and other Papers of their Arrival, that they may be tasted on the Key, where all Persons may be assured there is no Fraud in the Proposal; and will constantly continue to supply the Town with the same good and neat Brandies.

N. B. Mr. Ellys will give Attendance at his House in Seething Lane every Day till Twelve o'Clock at Noon, and from Twelve to Two to be spoke with at The Coffee house in Cornhill.

LONDON: Printed for *T. Cooper*, at the *Globe*, the Corner of *Ivy-Lane*, near *Pater-Noster-Row*.

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Those marked [‖] were at first in both Lists; but having joined in Interest with the *House List*, were left out of the List agreed on at the Swan Tavern. And,

Those marked [*a*] were added in their room.

Yesterday Morning the Corpse of the late Lord Foley was carried out of Town from his House in Hanover-Square, in order to be interred at Whitley in Worcestershire, in a Vault belonging to that Noble Family.

Private Letters from Smyrna, dated Nov. 21, mention, that the Bosphorus, Capt. Richards, was arrived safe at Smyrna on the 18th of that Month; and also that the Thames Fregate, Capt. Lisle, in the Service of the Hon. Turky Company, was daily expected from Constantinople to that Port, in order to load for England.

Yesterday Morning Capt. Williamson, Commander of the Decker, and Capt. Grantham, Commander of the Britannia, having taken Leave of the Court of Directors, set out for Gravesend, to proceed for Bengal.

Letters from Chester by last Post give an Account, that notwithstanding the extraordinary Proceedings of the Constables, the Poll ended on Wednesday last as follows; *viz.*

Persons polled for Mr. Grosvenor	879
Persons entered on the Poll-Books for Mr. Grosvenor, as Non-Residents —	193
There remain for Mr. Grosvenor, entered on the Poll-Books as Inhabitants, including about 200 Constables, who being Freemen, voted — —	684
Persons who were Inhabitants, paying Scot and Lot, being Freeman, polled for Mr. Manley — — —	518

Among the 684 there are a considerable Number of Paupers; and several entered on the Poll-Books as Inhabitants, who were properly Foreigners, and were polled as such at the Mayor's last Election; besides Miners, and Honorary Freemen: So that 'tis apprehended, upon a Scrutiny, the Number of Freemen-Inhabitants (paying Scot and Lot) for Mr. Manley will be near equal, if not superior, besides the Constables.

The Appointment of these Constables is a Proceeding of a very extraordinary Nature in the Magistrates; who, instead of making an equal Number named by each Candidate, as has been usually practised on the like Occasions, have turned out such of the 36 Standing Constables of the City as were in Mr. Manley's Interest; and not only made others in their room in Mr. Grosvenor's Interest, but appointed an additional Number of 170; which proved an effectual Influence on Mr. Grosvenor's Side, they being paid Half a Crown a Day, under Pretence of acting as Constables; and at the same time effectually discouraged Mr. Manley's Friends, many of them being threatened, obstructed, beaten, and terrified by these Constables, under the Pretence of Authority, from voting for him.

Last Night the Coroner's Inquest sat on the Bodies of Mrs. Duncomb, and the two other Women, who were found murdered in Tanfield-Court in the Temple, as mentioned in our last; and, without going out, brought in their Verdict *Wilful Murder*; and the same day four Laundresses in the Temple were committed to Newgate for the same: One of them confessed the Fact, and impeached the other three. She that confessed was taken up by a Gentleman of the Temple, in whose Chambers she had laid some Plate and bloody Linnen, not expecting he would come to Town so soon as he did by some Days.

Yesterday South Sea Stock was 104 7 8th to 105. South Sea Ann. 110 to 1 8th South Sea Bonds 2 l. 8. to 9 s. Prem. Bank 151 4th to 1 half. Bank Circulation 5 l. 5 s. Million Bank 115. India 160 1 4th. 160 1 half 160 1 4th. India Bonds 5 l. 7 s. to 8 Prem. Royal Assurance 104 3 4ths. London Assurance 13 5 8ths. African 35. Old Buildings no Transfer. Three per Cent Annuity 100 1 4th. Three and 1 half per Cent. Annuity 4 l. 10 s. Prem. Three per Cent. Bonds 2 l. 18 s. to 3 l.

This is to give Notice,

That *Thomas Ellys*, French Wine Merchant, in Seething Lane, Tower Street, London, has lately imported a Parcel of excellent good old Nantz Brandy, and will sell exactly neat as it is landed at the Keys, without any Adulteration (as is practised by many People) at 6 s. 6 d. per Gallon ready Money, for any Parcel not less than five Gallons; and on the Kegs by Wholesale, he will sell it something cheaper. He has provided a very large Parcel that is coming over, of which he will give Notice in this and other Papers of their Arrival, that they may be tasted on the Keys, where all Persons may be assured there is no Fraud in the Proposal; and will constantly continue to supply the Town with the same good and neat Brandies.

N. B. Mr. Ellys will give Attendance at his House in Seething Lane every Day till Twelve o'Clock at Noon, and from Twelve to Two to be spoke with at The Coffee house in Cornhill.

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